



An Undertaking of Bhaktapur Municipality

# Khwopa Engineering College

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NEWSLETTER

## 'Smart City' Cannot be a Substitute for Unplanned Urbanization



Mr. Narayanman Bijukchhen (Rohit), Chairman of the Nepal Worker and Peasants' Party and other distinguished guests at opening ceremony of 3rd NCATH-2024.

### 14<sup>th</sup> Baisakha

Narayanman Bijukchhen (Rohit), Chairman of the Nepal Worker and Peasants' Party, inaugurated the 3<sup>rd</sup>



National Conference on Architectural Trends and Heritage (NCATH) on 14<sup>th</sup>

Baishakh, 2081. The event was jointly organized by Khwopa Engineering College and Khwopa College of Engineering. In his address, Chief Guest Bijukchhen expressed best wishes for success of the conference. He emphasized that heritage conservation entails preserving the original and ancient skills and styles of Bhaktapur for the benefit of future generations. He highlighted that rebuilding heritage is to utilize traditional knowledge and skills to contribute to the country and society.

Chairman Bijukchhen asserted that merely labeling as city a 'smart city' cannot remedy unorganized urbanization. He emphasized the importance of

academic institutions such as universities,



archaeology departments, and academic institution in safeguarding tangible and intangible heritage.

Chief guest Bijukchhen further stated, "Besides preserving and promoting historical heritage, the study of antiquity propels humanity towards its future destination from the current standpoint." He highlighted the renowned 'Silk Road' as a historical example that interconnected the world along a single path. He emphasized the importance of bridging antiquity and history with the present while stressing the protection of museums and zoos. He noted that Darwin's theory has disseminated evolutionary thinking throughout society, underscoring the significance of connecting past narratives with contemporary understanding.

The Chairman of the program, Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality, and Chairman of the College Management Committee, Sunil Prajapati, expressed

optimism that professors, students, architects, engineers, and policymakers would engage in discussions on heritage conservation during the conference, leading to significant conclusions. He announced that the fourth international conference on Earthquake Engineering and Post Disaster Reconstruction Planning (ICEEPDRP) to be held in January 2026.



He emphasized that it is the collective responsibility and duty of all to safeguard the finest examples of woodwork, metalwork, and art, such as the Golden Gate, 55 Window Palace, Taha Falcha, located in the Bhaktapur Darbar area, as well as landmarks like Nyatapola Temple and Bhairabnath Temple of Taumadhi. He highlighted their role as sources of income and services provided through schools, colleges, and hospitals. Underlining that the Lal Baithak of Bhaktapur has not been reconstructed due to various technical reasons, he emphasized everyone's shared responsibility and duty to preserve this heritage site.



Ar. Rajani Joshi, Deputy Mayor

presentations delivered at the conference



of Bhaktapur Municipality and Vice-Chairman of the College Management Committee, expressed that the initiative "Bhaktapur after a Century" serves as a guiding principle to make Bhaktapur city exemplary. She further informed that the municipality is steadfastly progressing with the commitment that 'Together we can, Together we will.'

She elaborated on Bhaktapur Municipality's role in heritage conservation and highlighted that the municipality is actively involved in several initiatives. This includes implementing a local curriculum that educates about Bhaktapur's rich art and culture across all 92 schools. Additionally, the municipality organizes various skill-based training programs and recognizes cultural mentors for their contributions.

The Chief Administrative Officer of Bhaktapur Municipality, Basant Bhattarai, expressed confidence that the

would significantly aid policy-making bodies. He emphasized the crucial importance of maintaining a distinct identity in heritage protection and stressed the inclusion of discussions regarding the utilization of local resources and skills in the conference agenda.

During the program, Er. Sunil Duwal, Principal of Khwopa College of Engineering, showcased examples of efforts towards heritage conservation. He emphasized the need for awareness regarding donors' involvement in heritage conservation, pointing out that they may



have their own vested interests.

Ar. Libas Phaiju delivered a welcome address, setting the stage for the conference—subsequently, Ar. Eurika



Rajbanshi shared her perspectives and insights during the inaugural session.

Thirty research papers were presented across three sessions. Ms. Saubhagya Pradhananga (DG-DOA) delivered a valuable keynote speech. The organizing committee thanked the Society of Nepalese Architects (SONA) for their



support and cooperation in hosting the conference and facilitating insightful panel discussion.

Likewise, in his vote of thanks, Dr. Subeg Man Bijukchhen, vice principal of Khwopa Engineering College, reiterated the importance of conferences like this and



expected similar research contributions in the coming ICEEP-DRP 2026 for its success. In summarizing the speech, Ar. Archana Bade Shrestha thanked everyone for making the conference successful.





## KhEC and KhCE mark 135<sup>th</sup> International Workers' Day

23<sup>rd</sup> Baisakha



Addressing the program held on the occasion of the 135th International Workers' Day on 23rd Baisakh 2081, hosted jointly by Khwopa Engineering College and Khwopa College of Engineering, which is run by Bhaktapur Municipality, Chairman of NWPP Narayan Man Bijukchhen, Chief guest highlighted the necessity for a critical approach to all societal issues and emphasized that meaningful societal change pivots upon raising the populace's awareness level.

Mr. Bijukchhen emphasized the significant contribution and role of the working class in societal development and change. He stressed the importance of inspiring the new generation to study the biographies of revolutionary leaders.

Chief guest Bijukchhen stated that, "Capitalists will not advocate for the working class, so the working class must

persist in their ideological struggle against them." Asserting that pseudo-communists aim to undermine the labour movement, he warned against foreign investment in Nepal without considering local interests, viewing it as a form of neocolonialism. Expanding on the interconnectedness of international dynamics with Nepal, he highlighted that Nepal would have been better if India had had a progressive government.

During the program, Mr. Sunil Prajapati, Chairman of the College



Management Committee and Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality, reminisced about NWPP's vigorous protest against the passage of the Investment Board Bill. He cautioned that foreign investment posed a threat of Nepal becoming a neo-colony of imperialist powers.

By penning the Communist Manifesto in 1848, Marx and Engels introduced a revolutionary concept: the

working class could seize power from the bourgeoisie through class struggle. He

people regarding communist ideologies. Emphasizing the importance of a thorough discourse on May Day, they underscored that the labor movement remains steadfast in advocating for workers' rights.



Dr. Subeg Man Bijukchhen, Vice Principal of Khwopa Engineering College addressed topics related to 'Modi fascism' and other pertinent issues. Er. Naresh Khatri, faculty member of KhCE delivered

noted that the study of the Communist Manifesto has inspired over half of the world's population to combat the bourgeoisie and strive for socialism in their respective nations. However, he lamented that the communist parties in Nepal have struggled to adhere to the fundamental principles and ideals of communism.



Principal Er. Sujan Maka, Khwopa Engineering College and Er. Sunil Duwal, Principal of Khwopa College of Engineering, shed light on the historical context of the labor movement, highlighting the ruling party's efforts to sow discontent among the

a presentation on the 'History of the Labor Movement.' Subsequently, Mr. Sanjaya Manandhar, Administrative Chief shared his insights on International Workers' Day.





## Greeting Exchange Program on the Occasion of Biska Jatra and New Year 2081

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Baisakha

The greeting exchange program in celebration of Biska Jatra and New Year 2081 was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Baishakh, 2081.



The event was jointly organized by Khwopa Engineering College and Khwopa College of Engineering.

Addressing the program, Chief Guest Mr. Sunil Prajapati, Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality and Chairman of the college management committee, highlighted the ongoing progress of establishing Khwopa University and efforts towards its recognition. He emphasized the importance of facing challenges head-on and continuously striving for progress amidst opportunities and obstacles.

Mayor. Prajapati also underscored the essential role of Khwopa Hospital in serving the community, noting potential

challenges in healthcare provision due to delays in government insurance payments. He mentioned recent achievements such as the reconstruction of Bhajupukhu by Bhaktapur Municipality. He reflected on the events of the previous year, including the imprisonment of those involvements in 'Bhutanese refugees, the gold smuggling case, the Lalita Niwas scandal', and detention of high-ranking officials as a silver lining of the dark cloud. He urged everyone to learn from these incidents and emphasized the importance of adhering to legal procedures in all endeavors.

Advocating for political awareness, Mayor Prajapati emphasized leadership driven by a vision for national advancement rather than personal gain. He cautioned against foreign economic influence and highlighted concerns over Indian expansionism, particularly in hydropower projects.



Deputy Mayor Rajani Joshi shared updates on the realization of Khwopa



University's objectives and the increasing demand for skilled professionals from Khwopa Circle. He linked the success of the event to Bhaktapur's ability to transform challenges into opportunities, particularly



in the context of Biska Jatra's significance to engineers.

During the program, Principal of Khwopa Engineering College, Er. Sujan Maka, Principal of Khwopa College of Engineering, Er. Sunil Duwal, Vice Principal of KhEC, Dr. Subeg Man Bijukchhen and Vice Principal of KhCE, Er. Ratnashova Prajapati, heads of Departments Er. Yogesh Bajracharya and Er. Dinesh Gothe, Head of the Account Section Mr. Kaji Bahadur Pancha, Head of Administration Mr. Sanjay Manandhar, and Head of the Store Section Mr. Rajan Jati provided insights into the achievements and progress of the year 2080."





## Model Exhibition and Handover of Models to Patan Museum

### 8<sup>th</sup> Baisakha

On the occasion of World Heritage Day, Khwopa Engineering College (KhEC) and Khwopa College of Engineering (KhCE) jointly organized a model exhibition (as a pre-event of 3rd National Conference on Architectural Trends and Heritage, NCATH-2024) at Patan Museum, Lalitpur on 8th Baisakh 2081 (20th April 2024). There were 15 models prepared by students of B. Architecture on the theme “Traditional construction Technology and Heritage” showcased in event. Students demonstrated their skill, knowledge and hard work by displaying following models in the event:

- Iba Bahi, Patan
- Thakali House, Thakkhola
- Changu Narayan Temple, Changunarayan
- Chyaslin Mandap, Bhaktapur
- Krishna Mandir, Patan
- 55 Window Palace
- Navadurga Dyochhen, Bhaktapur
- Harishankar Temple, Patan
- Bhairabnath Temple, Bhaktapur

- Sundari Chowk, Patan
- Maju Dega, Kathmandu
- Datatraya Temple, Bhaktapur
- Laxmi Narsimha Temple, Bhaktapur
- Bhaila Kha, Bhaktapur
- Kasthamandap, Kathmandu

The exhibition's goal was to go beyond the confines of the college and raise public awareness about the importance and necessity of preserving Nepal's legacy. At the end of the ceremony, four models of the Patan area: Iba Bahi, Sundari Chowk, Krishna Mandir, and Harishankar Temple were handed over to Patan Museum. The students presented it to Ms. Manju Singh Bhandari, Executive Director of Patan Museum, in the presence of the Principal of KhEC and KhEC, the Vice Principal of KhEC, faculty members, and students from the Department of Architecture (KhEC). It was a moment of pride for the students and college, since their commitment would be seen by the public in the future.



## Khwopa Engineering College Clinches Victory in Kathmandu University's "Prarambha 2024" Stall Design Competition

8<sup>th</sup> Baisakha

Kathmandu University's Architecture Club hosted a stall design competition as part of their annual event "Prarambha 2024." Among the participants were students from Khwopa Engineering College (KhEC), showcasing their innovative prowess amidst a diverse array of contenders from various colleges.

The exhibition, held at Dhulikhel, featured an impressive array of architectural wonders, including models of heritage structures and students' academic projects. Each stall served as a canvas for creativity, displaying the ingenuity and talent of Nepal's budding architects.

After a day filled with awe-inspiring designs and enthusiastic discussions, visitors had the opportunity to cast their votes for the most captivating stall. Khwopa Engineering College emerged triumphant,

securing the coveted first position based on the overwhelming response from the audience.

At the heart of KhEC's winning stall were meticulously crafted models representing iconic landmarks such as the Bhairavnath Temple, Navadurga Dyochhen, Chyasilin Mandap, and Thakali house. These intricately detailed replicas not only showcased the students' dedication and craftsmanship but also celebrated Nepal's rich architectural heritage.

The success of Khwopa Engineering College extends beyond the confines of the competition. The showcased models have previously garnered acclaim at public exhibitions, including those held at Dattatraya Square on Magh 2nd, 2080, and the Patan Museum on Baisakh 8th, 2081, further cementing their significance in Nepal's cultural landscape.





## Reflecting on Resilience: Commemorating the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake

### 12<sup>nd</sup> Baisakha

A program was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Baishakh 2081, in remembrance of the Gorkha earthquake that struck on the 12th of Baisakh, 2072. Organized jointly by Khwopa Engineering College and Khwopa



College of Engineering, run by Bhaktapur Municipality, the event served as a platform for reflecting Gorkha Earthquake, 2072.

During the program, Mr. Sunil Prajapati, Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality and Chairman of the College Management Committee, launched the website for the 4<sup>th</sup> ICEE-PDRP 2026 conference.

Mayor Prajapati underscored the significance of commemorating the earthquake that occurred nine years ago, emphasizing the critical importance of immediate rescue and relief efforts during such disasters. He stressed the necessity of

disaster prevention measures. Addressing concerns about individuals exploiting disasters for personal and political gain, he warned against overlooking seismic risks, particularly regarding non-compliant construction practices in the valley.

Mayor Prajapati highlighted the municipality's commitment to heritage restoration, prioritizing local resources over foreign assistance. He expressed apprehension over ongoing challenges, including the exodus of youth abroad, privatization of industries, pervasive corruption, and the emergence of independent political movements as



alternatives to established parties, even fifteen years after the establishment of the Republic.

In the program, the Principal

of Khwopa Engineering College, Er. Sujan Maka highlighted the institution's commitment to research and journal publication, along with the organization of regular conferences focusing on earthquake-related topics. Similarly, Er. Sunil Duwal, Principal of Khwopa College of Engineering, emphasized the importance



of studying disasters comprehensively, seeing them as not only destructive but also offering opportunities for research and learning.

During the program, Prof. Dr. Gokarna Bahadur Motra from Tribhuvan University's Institute of Engineering



delivered a presentation on the "Study of Jajarkot Earthquake", focusing on its impact and future directions for earthquake-resilient reconstruction. Prof. Dr. Chandra Kiran Kawan presented research on the "Study of Seismic Site Effect and Soil Structure Resonance in Bhaktapur District", Nepal, utilizing micro tremors. Additionally, Dr. Subeg Man Bijukchhen discussed strategies for earthquake damage mitigation.

Dr. Manjip Shakya, Department Head of Earthquake Engineering, emphasized the potential for innovation and advancement presented by earthquakes. He discussed ongoing research efforts, including exploring new technologies to mitigate earthquake damage and enhance resilience.

The presentations and discussions underscored the importance of leveraging research and innovation to build resilience in the face of seismic events, highlighting the collaborative efforts of academia and practitioners in earthquake-prone regions.





## Empowering Through Technology: Celebrating International Girls in ICT 2024"

13<sup>th</sup> Baisakha

On Thursday, the 13th of Baisakh, 2081, Khwopa Engineering College and Khwopa College of Engineering organized a Talk Program for International Girls in ICT Day 2024. This day, observed on the fourth Thursday of April, highlights the pivotal



role of women in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector. It serves as a global platform to encourage female participation in technology-related fields and bridge the gender gap in the industry.

Ar. Rajni Joshi, Deputy Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality and Vice Chairperson of the College Management Committee was the chief guest of the program. In her address, she emphasized the imperative of utilizing information technology for the betterment of society and its members. She underscored the 21st century as an era of inclusivity,

where women possess equal rights and responsibilities to contribute to all facets of society.

Chief Guest Joshi highlighted Bhaktapur Municipality's sustained efforts over two decades to elevate society's intellectual capacity. The municipality strives to establish Bhaktapur as a hub of excellence while preserving its rich art, architecture, and culture.

In pursuit of the ambitious goal of ensuring every household has at least one graduate, Bhaktapur Municipality is guided by the manifesto of the Nepal Worker and Peasants' Party and a book penned two decades ago by party leader Mr. Narayanman Bijukchhen. Encapsulated in "Bhaktapur after a Century," this vision



aims to enhance intellectual prowess through research-driven teaching and

learning methodologies continuously.

During the program, Er. Sunil



Duwal, the Principal of Khwopa College of Engineering, delved into the intricate relationship between gender equity and cultural norms. He advocated for providing more opportunities for women in society, recognizing the importance of empowering them to participate fully in all spheres of life. Drawing comparisons with socialist countries where women often receive greater priority, he highlighted the relatively higher number of female teachers and students in colleges run by

Bhaktapur Municipality.

In addition, discussions led by Dr. Subeg Man Bijukchhen, Vice Principal of Khwopa Engineering College, and Er. Ratnashova Prajapati, Vice Principal of Khwopa College of Engineering, along with Er. Ramila Maharjan, Er. Reena Manandhar, Er. Sarla Shakya, Er. Rosina Shakya and others underscored the significant participation and contributions of women in the field of information technology. Their contributions highlighted the importance of fostering an inclusive environment that encourages and supports women in pursuing careers in ICT.



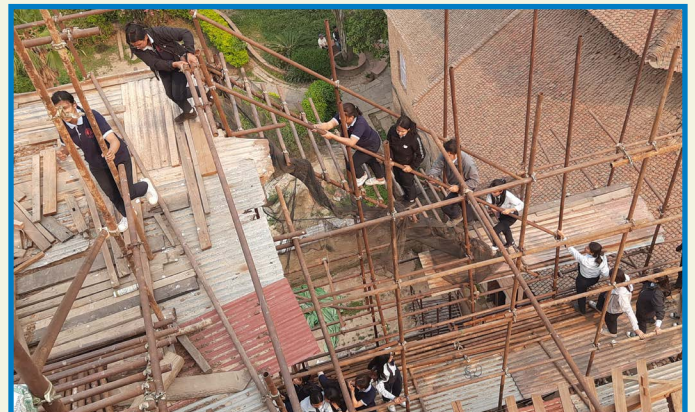


## Field Visit at Degutaleju Temple, Patan

21<sup>st</sup> Baisakha

On 3rd May 2024, the students of 2077 Batch of Department of Architecture, Khwopa Engineering College, made a site-visit to the Degutaleju Temple at Patan Durbar Square. It is the massive temple tower in Patan, having three-tiered roofs above a four storeys structure. It was

originally built by King Siddhinarsingh Malla, restored by his son King Srinivas Malla and lately, reconstructed by the Rana Prime Minister Juddha Shamsher after destruction due to 1990 earthquake. Recently, it is undergoing restoration/retrofitting that started from Poush 7, 2078 and is targeted to be complete by Ashar 15, 2081.





## Khwopa Engineering College Host Enlightening Book Talk Program

27<sup>th</sup> Baisakha

On Baisakh 27, 2081, the library sections of Khwopa Engineering College and Khwopa College of Engineering organized a captivating Book Talk Program centered around the insightful tome titled अन्तरङ्गका तरङ्गहरू: इतिहास, सस्कृति र पुरातत्व penned by Prof. Dr. Purushottam Lochan Shrestha.

Er. Sujan Maka, Principal of Khwopa Engineering College, expressed his gratitude to the esteemed author for enriching the audience with such a valuable literary gem. He emphasized the book's significance in providing profound insights into history, culture, and archaeology, particularly in the face of growing extremist ideologies posing a threat to societal harmony.

The author, Prof. Shrestha,

illuminated the audience with profound insights into his labour of love. With 101 meticulously crafted articles spanning the realms of history, culture, and archaeology, Dr. Shrestha revealed that the book is the culmination of four decades of dedicated scholarship and research.

Head of the library section, Jastara Koju, extended a warm welcome to the distinguished guests and the eager audience. The program was moderated by Sabina Lakha, adding a finishing touch to the enriching discourse.

The event served as an intellectual engagement, fostering a deeper understanding of our rich cultural heritage and the importance of scholarly pursuit in preserving it for generations to come.





## Gust Lecture by Ar. John Harrison

27<sup>th</sup> Baisakha

On 27 Baishakh 2081 (May 9 2024), Department of Architecture, Khwopa Engineering College organized a talk program by Ar. John Harrison, senior British Conservation Architect, research fellow at the Liverpool School of Architecture and an associate of Oslo University and the Oriental Institute of the Oxford University. He has lectured on the architecture of the Tibetan Himalaya at a number of universities and cultural institutions throughout Europe and Asia, and published books and articles on the Himalayan work, including “Mustang Building: Tibetan Temples and Vernacular Architecture in the Nepal Himalaya (2019)”,

and “the LAMO Center: Restoration and Adaptive Reuse in Leh Old Town (2017)”.

In the program, Ar. Harrison shared his experiences in the documentation of ancient monuments, namely temples, monasteries, settlements and settlement-ruins, as well as the restoration of selected historic buildings in the Himalayan belt of Kalash Valleys (Pakistan), Ladakh (India), Mustang (Nepal) and Tibet (China), which he has been continuing since 1985.

Students of the 3rd, 6th and 8th semesters (B. Architecture) as well as the faculties of the Architecture Department participated in the program.

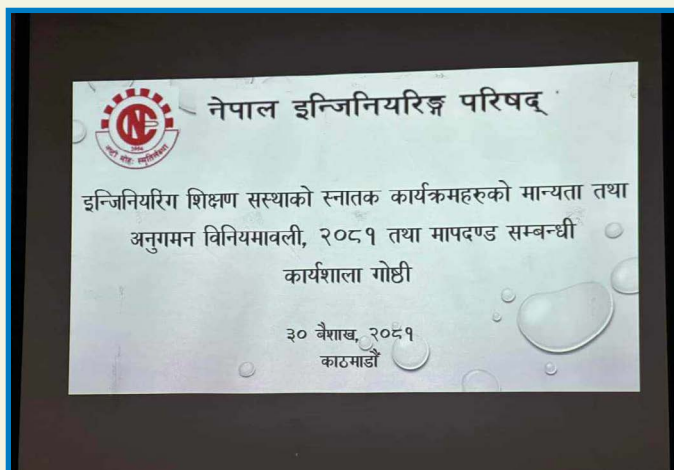


## Nepal Engineering Council Hosts Workshop on Evaluation Criteria for Engineering Colleges

31<sup>th</sup> Baisakha

A two-day workshop on the evaluation criteria and modified regulations for engineering colleges was organized by the Nepal Engineering Council (NEC) on April 12 and 13, 2024 (2081-01-30 and 31).

The workshop aimed to discuss and refine the criteria for permitting



and monitoring engineering programs across the country. The Chairman of the NEC presented a comprehensive explanation of the new regulations and evaluation standards that will govern engineering colleges in Nepal. The detailed presentation covered various aspects of quality assurance, academic standards, and institutional accountability.

Throughout the event,

Chairman, Campus Chiefs, Principals, and representatives from various engineering colleges engaged in productive discussions. They shared their views and recommendations for enhancing the quality of both graduate and postgraduate engineering education. The focus was on ensuring that engineering graduates are well-equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the demands of the industry and contribute to national development.

Principal Sujan Maka(KhCE), Principal Sunil Duwal (KhCE) and Vice-Principal, Dr. Subeg Man Bijukchhen welcomed the new regulations and



criteria, expressing optimism that these measures would significantly enhance the quality of engineering education in Nepal. They emphasized



the importance of fair and transparent evaluations, ensuring that all institutions are assessed on an equitable basis. Additionally, they suggested reducing the redundancy of monitoring by multiple regulatory bodies to streamline the oversight process and minimize administrative burdens on the colleges.

Participants expressed concerns regarding the implementation of the new criteria and how it might affect their institutions. In response, the NEC assured all attendees that their concerns would be addressed. The

council emphasized its commitment to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to achieve a standard of excellence in engineering education in Nepal.

The workshop concluded on a positive note, with a collective agreement on the importance of rigorous evaluation standards and a shared vision for the future of engineering education in Nepal. The NEC's initiative marks a significant step towards ensuring that engineering programs in the country adhere to high academic and professional standards.



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